

REMARKS

The Office Action of March 24, 2003 and the Advisory Action of May 15, 2003 have been received and their contents carefully reviewed. Claims 1 and 3 have been cancelled and claims 2 and 4 - 11 have been amended. These amendments have been made solely to expedite prosecution of the application and are not intended to be an endorsement of the rejections. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the same or similar claims in subsequent applications. Claims 2, 4 - 19 and 24 - 31 are currently pending in the application. Once again, Applicants gratefully acknowledge the examiner's statement that claims 17 - 19 and 24 - 31 are allowed.

Claims 1 - 3 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,101,712 to Wright (hereinafter "the '712 reference). Applicants believe this rejection has been rendered moot by the aforementioned amendments.

The '712 reference clearly does not disclose, teach or suggest a coaxial displacement section which includes two displacement beams that are spaced apart by a distance greater than an outer diameter of a center conductor and less than an inner diameter of an outer braid conductor of a coaxial cable. In contrast, what the examiner refers to as the beams (104) are clearly spaced apart a distance greater than the inner diameter of the outer braid (108).

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 2 and the claims dependent upon it are patentably distinct from the '712 reference. It is respectfully requested that the examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection.

Claims 7 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being clearly anticipated by the '712 reference. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As claims 7 and 8 are dependent upon independent claim 2, which is allowable for the reasons detailed above, these claims are also allowable. It is respectfully requested that the examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection.

Claims 1 - 3, 6 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,701,001 to Verhoeven in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,101,712 to Wright. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

For the reasons detailed above, the '712 reference fails to teach each and every element of independent claim 2. The '001 reference does not teach or suggest two displacement beams that are spaced apart by a distance greater than an outer diameter of a center conductor and less than an inner diameter of an outer braid conductor of a coaxial cable. It is respectfully requested that the examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection.

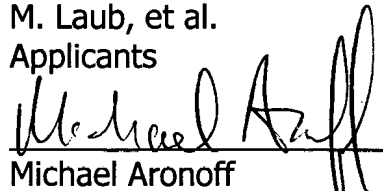
For the reasons set out above, it is respectfully requested that the examiner withdraw all of the pending rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all of the presently pending claims at the earliest possible time.

If the examiner has any questions regarding the presently pending claims which could be easily resolved by a telephone conference, the examiner is respectfully requested to contact the Applicants' representative at the below listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

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Version with markings to show changes made

In the Claims

2. (Once Amended) ~~A~~ The coaxial cable comprising connector of claim 1, an inner contact configured to be securable to a center conductor of a coaxial cable;

a connector housing having a cavity for receiving said inner contact and configured for receiving the coaxial cable;

an outer contact secured to said connector housing and configured to be securable to an outer braid conductor of the coaxial cable; and

a coaxial cable displacement section connected to said outer contact, the coaxial cable displacement section having a displacement beam configured to pierce and hold an outer braid conductor of a coaxial cable with a retention force and including wherein said coaxial cable displacement section includes at least two displacement beams spaced apart by a distance greater than an outer diameter of a center conductor of a coaxial cable and less than an inner diameter of an outer braid conductor of a coaxial cable so as to pierce an outer braid conductor of a coaxial cable in two locations.

4. (Twice Amended) The coaxial cable connector of claim 2~~1~~, wherein the coaxial cable displacement contact section further comprises a pair of braid-receiving slots separated from one another by a distance corresponding to a diameter of an outer braid conductor of a coaxial cable.

5. (Twice Amended) The coaxial cable connector of claim 2~~1~~, wherein the coaxial cable displacement section includes a braid-receiving slot, each braid-receiving slot being configured to receive, and exert said retention force on, an outer braid conductor of the coaxial cable.

6. (Twice Amended) The coaxial cable connector of claim 21, wherein the displacement beam includes an evenly tapered tip configured to guide said displacement beam along a straight path into a dielectric layer between center and outer braid conductors of a coaxial cable.

7. (Twice Amended) The coaxial cable connector of claim 21, wherein said inner contact represents a first inner contact, said connector further comprising:

a second inner contact matable with said first inner contact, said second inner contact being configured to be secured a center conductor of a second coaxial.

8. (Once Amended) The coaxial cable connector of claim 21, wherein said outer contact represents a first outer contact, said connector further comprising:

a second outer contact matable with said first outer contact, said second outer contact being configured to be secured to an outer braid conductor of a second coaxial cable.

9. (Once Amended) The coaxial cable connector of claim 21, wherein the coaxial cable displacement section includes a forked section defined by a contact wall and said displacement beam separated from one another by a slot, said contact wall having a tapered edge forming a collection area configured for receiving a portion of a jacket of a coaxial cable.

10. (Once Amended) The coaxial cable connector of claim 21, wherein the coaxial cable displacement section includes an under-cut edge tapered downward and away from a tip of said displacement beam.

11. (Once Amended) The coaxial cable connector of claim 21, wherein the coaxial cable displacement section includes a braid receiving slot extending downward and is flared to form a base well.